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Message Text

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17
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 SAJ-01 OMB-01 /081 W
---------- 045513
R 090950Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3972
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USMISSION UN NEW YORK
USLO PEKING
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 14461

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, KN, JA
SUBJ: OFFICIAL JAPANESE CONTACT WITH NORTH KOREA

1. GOJ HAS MADE DIRECT APPROACH THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS TO DPRK REQUESTING RETURN OF TWOWOUNDED SHOSEI MARU CREWMEN. FONOFF NORTHEAST ASIA DIVDIR ENDO WOULD NOT NAME LOCATION OF EMBASSY IN WHICH CONTACT MADE. HE SAID OUTCOME OF CONTACT UNSATISFACTORY AND NO ANSWER RECEIVED.

2. ENDO SAID GOJ DECIDED TO MAKE DIRECT APPROACH IN VIEW OF MOUNTING CRITICISM IN PRESS AND FROM DIET MEMBERS FOR FAILURE TO PRODUCE RESULTS THROUGH RED CROSS CHANNELS. HE STRESSED THAT CHANNEL EST-ABLISHED SOLELY FOR PURPOSES OF SECURING RETURN OF SHOSEI MARU CREWMEN, AND HAD NO LONG TERM IMPLICATIONS.

3. LOCATION OF CONTACT REMAINS UNCLEAR. PRESS HAS BEEN GUESSING THAT LINK MADE IN MOSCOW, AND FRIENDLY REPORTER WHO DINED WITH MIYAZAWA LAST NIGHT SAYS FONMIN CONFIRMED THIS. ENDO SAID MENTION OF MOSCOW
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PURE SPECULATION, BASED ON FACT THAT JAPANESE EMBASSY HAD HAD CONSULAR

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CONTACT WITH NORTH KOREANS THERE WHEN MOSCOW WAS MAIN POINT OF DEPARTURE OF JAPANESE VISITORS TO DPRK. SINCE OPENING OF AIR ROUTE FROM TOKYO, HOWEVER, PEKING HAS REPLACED MOSCOW AS THE PRINCIPAL DEPARTURE POINT FOR JAPANESE VISITORS, AND CONSULAR CONTACT WITH NORTH KOREANS HAS SHIFTED ACCORDINGLY.
SHOESMITH

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NNN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST OFFICIALS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TOKYO14461
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750351-0143
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751068/aaaacitf.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <29 OCT 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OFFICIAL JAPANESE CONTACT WITH NORTH KOREA
TAGS: PFOR, KN, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006